

Grant ID: 1908

Title of Proposal: SPAY NASSAU
Agency Type: Non-Profit
Total Funding Requested: \$15,000.00
Check Payable To: Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA
Website Address: www.catsangels.com
Person Submitting Proposal: Sherry Merritt
Position: Exec. Director
Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: catsangels@catsangels.com
Agency Head: Sherry Merritt
Agency Head Email: catsangels@catsangels.com
Organization Business Address: 709 S. 8th Street
City: Fernandina Beach
State: Florida
Zip: 32034
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 904-321-2267
Fax:
Cell: 904-673-0892

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 07/01/2001
Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/19 **End:** 12/31/19
Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$192,348.40
Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$178,185.15
Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 2 Part Time: 0

Number of Active Volunteers: 71
Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 176.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Shared information with First Coast No more Homeless Pets Organization

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: Year(s) denied/incomplete:

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
175	2010	TNR/SPAY NASSAU	Denied
261	2011	Spay Nassau	Funded
1908	2020	SPAY NASSAU	Funded

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Describe your Organization:

Services Provided

- Open Admission Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control
- Spay/Neuter Services
- Other

Organization Structure:

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency
- TNR Group
- Rescue Group
- Other

List your current board of directors:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation
Bonnie Howell	Director	252-675-2838	Retired Law Enforcement
Gail Cook	Secretary	904-583-1415	Educator
Joan Manley	Director	239-284-0458	Retired Educator
Nancy Douglas	Director	904-557-8939	Professional Pet Sitter
Pat Glassbrenner	Director	904-206-9305	Administrative Coordinator
Sherry Merritt	President	904-673-0892	Executive Director

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

110 cats and 3 dogs were admitted.

103 cats and 3 dogs were adopted.

3 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

751 cats and 1 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

- Stray/Lost pet intake
- Foster Program
- Wellness services to understand pet owners
- Volunteer Program
- Owner surrendered animals
- Food Bank
- Cruelty investigation
- High volume spay/neuter clinic
- Lost and Found Program
- Behavior counseling
- Enforcement of ordinances
- Full service wellness clinic
- Adoption Program
- Disaster services

If your program performs adoptions, are all animals sterilized before adoption?

Yes

If not all, what percentage of animals are not currently sterilized before adoption?

If not all, how are animals selected for sterilization before adoption?

If not all, describe your sterilization policies and procedures for assuring sterilization after adoption:

Give additional background information on your organization's programs as they relate to this application and the qualifications of the personnel who will be in charge of this program. Show that you have the ability to carry out this program.

Our low-cost/TNR program has been in existence since 2001. Since 2001, we have help spay/neuter over 19,000 cats. We have a strong partnership with First Coast No More Homeless Pets Organization. Basically, FCNHP reserves us spay/neuter space for 25 to 50 animals each Wednesday. Our Executive Director will be in charge of this program and transports the animals each week to FCNHP and then transports them back to Cats Angels to recover in our dedicated recovery room.

If you currently have a program for sterilization of cats and/or dogs, describe your current level of funding and productivity and why additional resources are needed?

We rely on private donations, fundraising, and our thrift store sales to help fund our programs. However, not everyone can afford to pay for low-cost services or TNR. We would like the ability to help more people and animals that can't afford these services.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):	Fernandina, Fl, Callahan, Fl & Hillard, Fl. 32011, 32046 , 32034 Nassau County Florida
Total human population in target area:	82,864
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	10.23 percent
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	25111
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	20716
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	13811
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1,1450
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1,1342

Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	48
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	49
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. Yes, Our county is building a new city in county called Wildlight and currently have added over 39,000 new homes to our county.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: The lack of affordable spay/neuter services, transportation, and education in our rural areas is the leading cause of overpopulation in our targeted area.	
What kinds of spay/neuter services are currently available in the target area and in what ways are these resources currently insufficient to meet community needs? Cats Angels is the only non-profit organization that offers TNR services in Nassau County. We depend on private donations, fundraising, and our thrift store to fund our programs. The demand to help TNR/community more cats is needed. There are only private veterinary clinics in our targeted area. They fail to meet community needs because they are not affordable for our under served . They don't offer any discounted price for feral cats or domestic community cats. For example, a mom cat and 4 of her babies would cost over \$1,500 to spay/neuter. Also, our veterinary clinics can't spay/neuter the current volume of cats and dogs that are needed. Most clinics, can only spay/neuter 5 animals a week.	
Florida Animal Friend is highly supportive of proposals that are focused on animal populations that are identified as substantial sources of dog or cat overpopulation rather than being diluted over too broad of a geographic area or diverse animal populations. Describe the specific target animal population of the spay/neuter project proposed for this grant: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Pit Bull / large breed dogs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TNR managed colonies of feral cats <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community cats (free-roaming and/or owned) <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

TNR Managed Colony Feral Cat Program/Community Cats (Free-Roaming and/or Owned) Program

Define the precise boundaries of the colony or targeted area, including estimate of square miles.

We have 733.07 sq miles in Nassau County. The boundaries in our targeted area are the city/county limits of Callahan(32011), Hillard(32046), and Yulee(32034).

What is the criteria used for determining the target area(s) and/or eligibility for this program?

The locations to be serviced by this grant are three vicinities in the Northeast area of Nassau County, Florida: Hilliard, Callahan, and the area of Fernandina Beach located off Old Nassauville Road. The target areas are rural residential communities with some commercial development. The locations were selected based on the following criteria: · An increased number of cats being dropped off and abandoned in these locations that have not been spayed or neutered. · The targeted a

Describe whether the targeted area is rural, suburban, or urban. Is it commercial, residential, agricultural, or a designated special land use?

The target area is mix of rural, commercial, and residential.

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 13811

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 5000

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant: 900

For TNR program, describe the ability to maintain lifelong care for remaining cats, commitment level of volunteers/organizations, etc.

We have a food bank for our colony caregivers. Our caregivers also inform us if any new cats enter their colony so they can be trapped and spayed/neutered. We provide medical support for any colony cats may get injured or need medical help.

Do current city/county ordinances address TNR or free-roaming cats?

Yes

Please explain what is allowed:

Cats are allowed to roam freely.

(NOTE: FAF will not fund any program this is inconsistent with local ordinances.)

For TNR program, list any groups or government agencies who support this TNR effort:

Nassau County Animal Services, Nassau Humane Society, and Paw Paws Animal Rescue.

Describe any effort to lessen the negative impact on local wildlife.

Cats Angels food bank provides food to colony care givers and people with individual pets. Providing a community food bank will help lessen a cats negative impact on killing and harming wildlife.

Describe efforts that will be made to mitigate current or potential nuisance issues.

By spaying and neutering cats, we are helping reduce the cat population. Basically, this stops the colony from growing and in time, colonies will get smaller and smaller. Also, by spay/neutering cats there cat fights and other nuisance behaviors diminish.

Will the cats be ear-tipped? Yes

Will the cats be microchipped? No

Provide any additional information that will help the grant selection committee understand how this program will operate to achieve its goals.

We take TNR very serious and believe it is critical to reduce the overpopulation of cats and kittens in our community. We are well trained in handling, trapping, transporting, and housing TNR cats. Currently, we TNR 25-75 cats each month through our program. We have a food bank program for our colony care givers and assist in any medical issues that arise with TNR cats in our community.

Objectives

What do you hope to accomplish with these funds (objectives should be specific and quantifiable)?

Our goal is to spay/neuter 375 cats in our community. This would help us achieve our overall goal of spay/neutering over 1,000 cats this year. We also want to keep our shelters no-kill and by spay/neutering, we are preventing unwanted litters from entering our shelter. We also want to help our community in a positive way by helping educate them about spay/neuter.

How does this program increase the number of sterilization surgeries above the existing baseline?

Last year, we were able to spay/neuter 750 cats through our program. If we receive the grant money, we would help spay/neuter over 1,000 cats.

Methods

What criteria will you use to determine eligibility for your program?

The locations to be serviced by this grant are three vicinities in the Northeast area of Nassau County, Florida: Hilliard, Callahan, and the area of Fernandina Beach located off Old Nassauville Road. The target areas are rural residential communities with some commercial development. The locations were selected based on the following criteria:

- An increased number of cats being dropped off and abandoned in these locations that have not been spayed or neutered.
- The targeted areas include predominantly low-income households that do not have access to affordable spay and neuter support from any other provider than Cats Angels, Inc.
- The number of requests received by Cats Angels, Inc. from residents and business owners in these areas requesting spay and neuter control of feral and community cat populations.
- The rapid growth in community development, increased home construction, and a growing human population in these areas.
- The lack of awareness of the availability of Trap, Neuter and Release Programs by members of these communities.

How will you advertise the program? Explain how the advertising will reach the target audience.

We will advertise the program on social media, our website, and local newspaper. Also, we will make a flyer for the program and post this flyer in public areas around our community. For example, convenient stores, grocery stores, and laundromats.

How will you address barriers to full use of the program such as transportation, illiteracy, and cultural hurdles?

We will provide traps, carriers, and transportation for the cats. We will also provide written material (flyers) in Spanish.

Does this project involve the transportation of animals by someone other than the client? If so, describe the vehicles, methods for confinement, personnel training, liability releases used to assure the safety of the animals and handlers.

Cats Angels has a van that is used in trapping and transporting cats from the trapping site to surgery. Cats Angels offers volunteer trapping training classes that to our volunteers, general public, and our local animal control and humane society. Cats Angels has a climate control room that is dedicated to TNR cats in traps for presurgery and postsurgery recovery.

Veterinary Services

What arrangements have you made with veterinarians to perform the surgeries?

First Coast No More Homeless Pets reserves every Wednesday for us to bring in 25 or more animals in for spay/neuter services.

Are they: In-house Private Vet(s) Combination

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
First Coast No More Homeless Pets	6817 Norwood Ave	Jacksonville	Florida	32208	904-425-0005	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Fee Range

What is the fee range to be paid for spay and neuter and what is the distribution to be paid by the client vs. the grant program? Keep in mind that Florida Animal Friend grant funds may only be used for costs directly associated with sterilization surgery (including anesthesia and pain control) and not for other items such as vaccines, testing, licensing, and capital purchases.

	Amount Paid by Client	Amount Paid by Project	Total Amount
Range for Male Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>

Please check each item below to indicate additional services offered at the time of surgery, whether the client is required to pay for them, and if so what the fee is. For example, if an examination is required for surgery but is not charged to the client it would be marked: Required Yes, Fee to client No

	Required, Optional, or Not Offered	Fee to Client?
Examination	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Rabies Vaccination if Due	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Other Vaccination if Due	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Pain Medication	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Parasite Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
HW Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Feline Leuk/FIV	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
County License	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Ear tipping	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Microchip	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

None of the anticipated grant funds can be used for any of the above services, except for pain medication.

If necessary, please explain the procedures and fees described above:

The grant will cover the sterilization and pain medication. Any other medications needed will be covered by Cats Angels.

Is this a voucher program? No

If so, how will you assure compliance with the program?

For your voucher program, how have you determined the capacity of the veterinarians listed above to handle the projected capacity?

Will you have the ability to report the number of vouchers issued and the percentage that result in S/N surgeries?

Community Collaboration

To assure the success of your program, are there any local groups (such as rescue groups, animal control agencies, TNR groups, local businesses, local media, social service agencies, etc.) other than your organization and your cooperating veterinarians who

are committed to assist?

Yes No

Please list them and detail their level of involvement with the proposed effort.

Name	Level of Involvement
Meals on Wheels for Pets	Provide donated cat and dog food to Meals on Wheels organization. Also, partner with us on any cats/dogs that needs to get spayed and neutered that is in their program.
Nassau County Animal Services	They can help trap, provide housing, and transport for medical and spay/neuter to veterinary clinics.
Nassau Humane Society	Help trap and provide housing and transportation to the veterinary clinic for medical.

Other Information

Provide any additional information that will help the grant selection committee understand how the program will operate to achieve its goals.

We take TNR serious and our system works. Our call volume consists of 25 to 30 people calling for spay/neuter services each week. Once the need is established, we have a team of trained volunteers that help trap cats and bring them in to Cats Angels. Next, we have a scheduled dedicated day that we bring them into First Coast No More Homeless Pets. Once, they are spayed/neutered, they will recover at Cats Angels before being released.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 375 **Dogs:** 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$15,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$40.00

Describe any expenses that are not included in the grant and how they will be paid for (for example, vaccines, microchipping, ear notching, etc.):

Any expenses that are not included in the grant will be paid for by Cats Angels. For example, we will cover the cost of flea meds, antibiotics, or specialty surgery (hernias, crypt orchids, eye repairs).

Describe any other funding sources for this program, i.e. other grants, targeted fundraising efforts, budget allocation, etc.

Nassau County Animal Services collects monies for county licenses. In return, NCAS gives a portion of the money collected to help fund our spay/neuter program.

What percent of the total cost of the program would this projected grant cover?

25%

Timeline

All projects must be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding.

Projected start date: 09/01/20/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/21

Unexpended funds

Any unexpended funds must be refunded to Florida Animal Friend within 30 days of the end of the project.

Requests for extensions

Requests for time extensions are discouraged and not often granted. If it is imperative to request an extension, such request must be made in writing at least 30 days prior to the end of the project. It is FAF's policy to seldom grant more than a 30-60 day extension.

Failure to submit reports and requests within the required time period will impact your agency's future grant applications.

Future Funding to Sustain Public Spay/Neuter

***Explain how the organization plans to fund this program in the future. Having sustainable plans including other grants, local donations and other services generating revenue enhances the chances of receiving this grant.**

We have 2 fundraisers each year and use social media to help raise funds. Together, these efforts raise about \$11,000 and each year we raise more money at our events. We also have a thrift store that is strictly ran by volunteers and this raises 1/2 of our funding for our programs. However, due

to corona virus pandemic that is occurring, we have cancelled one of our fundraising events and closed our thrift store. So far, we have lost 10,000 in funding our programs.

Promotion of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate

***Applicants selected for funding are expected to publicize their grant in support of their spay/neuter program and promote the sale of the Animal Friend license plate via press releases, newsletters, website links, social media, etc. Please describe your plan to promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate. Grantees are required to submit documentation of promotional endeavors with their final report.**

What do we want to accomplish? 1. Communicate back to our donors first and foremost on what connects them with our organization: the safety and wellbeing of felines, which is what they care about most. We have a sense of what matters to our supporters. We plan to take our core message and look at it objectively to determine how our mission can be updated to include support of the Florida Animals Friends license plate program. 2. Increase popularity and purchase of Florida Animal Friends license plates. 3. Increase community awareness of the Trap, Neuter and Release (TNR) Program funded partially by the Florida Animal Friends License Program. What are our three main marketing goals over the next year once the grant is approved, in priority order? 1. Engagement with past Cats Angels supporters to build support for the license program. 2. Introduction of the License Program to Animal lovers in Nassau County through the annual Fernandina Beach Animal Expo and Nassau County adoption events. 3. Increase community awareness of the license plates, and TNR and its importance through interaction with: a. Car dealerships in Fernandina Beach, FL b. Girl and Boy Scout troops c. Support through Compassionate Fernandina d. Support through the three Rotary Clubs in Fernandina Beach. Target Audience: • Groups: o Cats Angels volunteers o Past adoptees of Cats Angels kitties. o Recipients that we have assisted in spay/neuter, vaccinations, micro-chipping. o Past donors to Cats Angels. o Visitors to our Thrift Store • Low-Hanging Fruit: o Individuals in our groups that are buying cars Plan Approach • Prioritize two methods to reach our marketing goal. Who are we targeting? o Our own Cats Angels volunteers and donors. o Animal lovers attending fundraising events, such as the annual Fernandina Beach Animal Expo and Nassau County Animal Adoption Events. • How are you communicating? o Cats Angels Face Book o Nassau County Event Handouts o Advertisements in Fernandina, Hilliard, and Callahan newspapers and websites providing the Cats Angels story and describing our alliance with the Florida Animal Friend License Plate program. • When are we contacting them? o Monthly update of Cats Angels Thrift Store handouts o Weekly Facebook posts, o Dissemination of Nassau County Event marketing material o Monthly news articles • Timeline: Monthly review of plan and results • Metrics to measure our success: o Website analytics o Number of Nassau County donors who bought license plates. • Evaluation: o Review how our marketing activities have changed and/or improved our organization's support of the license plate program. o Analyze what worked and why to identify what we want to do differently, and revise our plan as we move forward. Analyze Results • Define what success looks like. • Regularly review our results, in order to adjust tactics and strategies to achieve our goals. • Periodically review fund raising articles for helpful hints on how to improve the plan.